

INSIDE TODAY

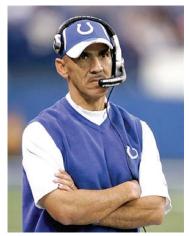
U.S. NEWS ISRAELI ADVANCE



President George W. Bush holds his last formal news conference at the White House, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, in Washington. See INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

DUNGY RETIRES



Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy looks on during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game against the Tennessee Titans in Indianapolis, Sunday, Dec. 28, 2008. Indianapolis won 23-0.

See Sports Today

Dutch Second Chamber to assess POK overseas

SCHIPHOL--The Dutch Second Chamber plans to evaluate the significance of the Parliamentary Consultation of the Kingdom POK which takes place twice a year between the three Parliaments in the Dutch Kingdom, said Dutch delegation leader Willibrord van Beek on Sunday, after returning from Aruba where POK was held last week.

"It is time for an evaluation. We have to talk about the manner in which we continue these meetings," van Beek said at a press conference at Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. However, he did not say beforehand that POK will be eliminated because the last three POK meetings were not very fruitful.

Continued on Page 3



New ports of call spice up Caribbean cruising

BONAIRE - Tired of the same old ports of call when it comes to cruising the Caribbean? The cruise industry is enticing bored cruisers with a roster of renovated and newly developed ports created to shake up its predictable itineraries.

Die-hard cruisers may still enjoy the mainstay ports, but others are looking to experience new territory.

"I love cruising the Caribbean and have been on six cruises to prove it," said Janet Certa, a retired teacher from Burtonsville. "But I'm looking forward to visiting some of the new ports for cruise No. 7."

Continued on Page 4





Tuesday, January 13, 2009 LOCAL





At the Westin Resort

Nicole & Nicholas exchange vows as the sun sets



PALM BEACH – Nicole Cerra & Nicholas Yebba of Boston celebrated their love for one another with a beach blessing at the Aruba Westin Resort on January 11, 2009. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Gregory Lyder and witnessed by family and friends as the golden sun set into the Caribbean Sea.

The celebration of love







was coordinated by Jancis Tromp of the Westin Resort and orchestrated together with the Events Team of the Resort. After the beach blessing, romantic sunset and photo shoot by Bella Aruba Photography, Nicole & Nicholas enjoyed a fabulous dinner on the pool deck with their guests, then to the Palm



Beach Ball Room for dancing, dessert and the official cake cutting ceremony.

Congratulations to Nicole

Congratulations to Nicole & Nicholas from Aruba Today

Photos by Julia Renfro











POK

Continued from Front Page

"Important issues remain, issues that we cannot just dismiss and say that we will not discuss them," he said.

In January and June 2008, the POK had not been very successful with the meeting in January last year. It was cancelled. This time POK came very close to failure as a result of member of the Dutch delegation, Hero Brinkman of the Party for Freedom PVV. Arubans were very upset about statements that Brinkman made on American TV. Twice he called Aruba's government corrupt on FoxNews. "People were deeply offended," said van Beek, who immediately issued a press release following the broadcast to make clear that Brinkman spoke for himself and not on behalf of the Dutch delegation.

When for the third time Brinkman insulted Aruba's government, by calling Justice Minister Rudy Croes a liar during the meeting on Friday, the Dutch delegation asked for an adjournment to have a serious talk with Brinkman.

Van Beek explained that during the adjournment, the Dutch delegation asked Brinkman the reason he had not discussed his intention to make insulting statements during Friday's meeting internally first. "He said he hadn't done so because he knew we wouldn't agree with him. At that moment, something broke in the delegation. We told him that the delegation had stood by him the entire week. But now he had crossed the line of decency. We told him that he needed to apologise, not only to Aruba, but also to us," said van Beek.

Brinkman refused to apologise and as a result, the MP was expelled from the Dutch delegation. van Beek said he had to take this decision because Brinkman had gone too far. Van Beek also did not

want to go home empty-handed for the second time after last year's cancellation. He said he had continuously seen to it that Brinkman could express his own political views, even though his opinion was not shared by the rest of the Dutch delegation.

Van Beek said he was not trying to keep anyone out of the delegation. He said he did not have a personal problem with Brinkman. "We had a talk before I left," said Van Beek, who confirmed that Brinkman will remain a member of the Second Chamber's Permanent Committee for Antillean and Aruban Affairs NAAZ. He said the delegation would give accountability for what happened in Aruba.

He said the atmosphere of the meetings in Oranjestad had been very tense and difficult. Besides the issue with Brinkman, there were also some challenging issues on the agenda to deal with, such as constitutional reform and the position of Antillean and Arubans in the Netherlands

"It was tough," said van Beek. He lamented on the course of events and said that for him too, the week had been a "disappointment." Even after the incident with Brinkman on Friday was resolved, the situation in the room remained very tense when parties had to wrap up the customary Final Declaration. The remainder of the Dutch delegation returned to the Netherlands Monday morning. \Box

The players out in full force

Poker At The Excelsior a big hit

PALM BEACH - Recently the Excelsior Casino hosted its famous Single Table Tournament where fabulous prizes where on offer. One of the prizes was a cruise trip. Action was fierce, the players were determined, in short another great tourney at Excelsior Casino.

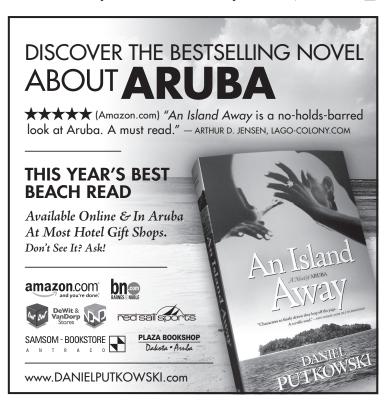
The Excelsior Casino is located in the Holiday Inn Resort, a 600 room facility. The Casino has been in existence for 30 years; 50% of our guests come from the United States, 30% from South America and the balance from Europe. The beautiful Excelsior Casino will satisfy your taste for games of chance.

One of Aruba's finest casinos, the Excelsior Casino features Las Vegas style gambling of all games of chance as well as a beautiful sports betting area and poker room. The Excelsior Casino is the only casino in Aruba to offer 3-4-5 times odds on Craps and Double Deck Blackjack. Spanish 21 and Blackjack can be delt out of a shoe at your request. And, most of all, the Excelsior Casino does not hit the soft 17. Casino Excelsior features the largest Poker



Room with limits as low as \$2-\$4 to \$50-\$100 no limit. No need to carry coins to the totally Ticket-In, Ticket-Out

cashier! The Excelsior Casino's state of the art slot machines are



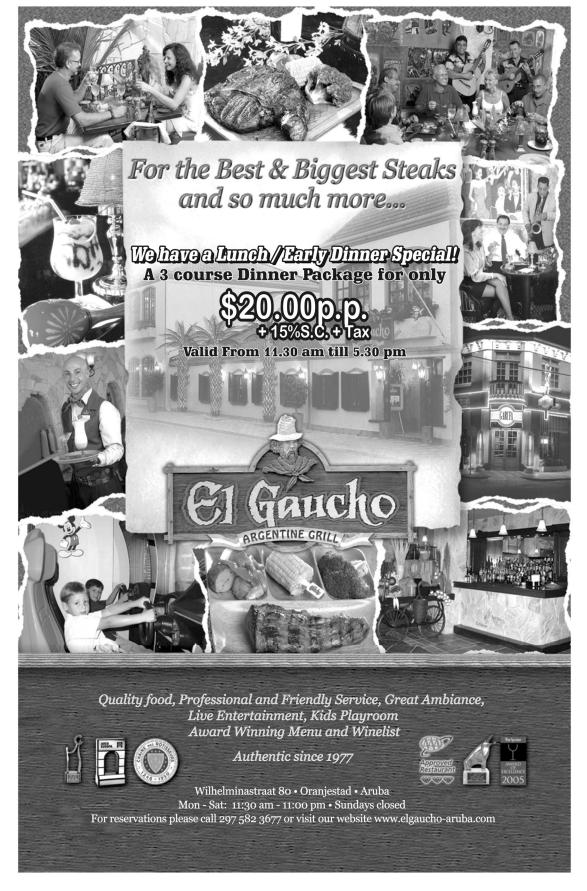




Tuesday, January 13, 2009 LOCAL







CARIBBEAN CRUISING

Continued from Front Page

New ports of calls in Tortola, Bonaire and Turks and Caicos are currently welcoming visitors looking to expand their Caribbean horizons. When it comes to any port, though, most cruisers look for the same amenities.

"I've found that what's preferred are ports that aren't too exotic and that have key features like nice beaches, good shopping, fun bars and restaurants," said Carolyn Spencer Brown, editor in chief of Cruisecritic.com.

The \$60 million Grand Turk Cruise Centre in Turks and Caicos was created by Carnival Cruise Lines, and although opened in 2006, it continues to expand. The 13-acre complex features an 800-foot-long private beach, swimming pool and FlowRider attraction that offers body boarding and stand-up board surfing in addition to multiple retail outlets.

Jamaica is upping the ante with the development of its fourth cruise destination on its northern coast. By late 2009, the Port Authority of Jamaica expects to debut Falmouth as a major cruise port.

"Cruise visitors are looking for more memorable experiences, and that's what Falmouth will deliver," said William Tatham, vice president of Cruise and Marina Operations at the Port Authority of Jamaica.

Falmouth is being designed and built to accommodate Royal Caribbean's mega-ship Oasis of the Seas. "It's easily the most anticipated new port," said Brown. "But it won't be on the ship's itinerary until 2010."

When it comes to cruising, are travelers more interested in the port or the ship? Brown said, "The bigger vessels, which have room for so many more options, activities and amenities are definitely more interesting than the itineraries they cruise."



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EKF guarantees Caribbean wind project



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A nice 2 story house that features 3 bed/2 bath and a big apartment. Asking Price US\$ 334.270

Maureen **Thijzen** 739-1000 AMSTERDAM - Dutch firm Hutting Windenergie and private equity investor Bright Capital Partners have secured a \$60 million non-recourse financing from Nordea to build the 30MW Vader Piet wind farm project in Aruba.

Dexia and Eksport Kredit Fonden (EKF) are arranger and guarantor for the financing, while Nordea is providing the 13 year debt. The total project cost is \$75 million, with \$5 million of equity being sourced as sub-debt from Allied Irish Bank. Aruba is a 33 kilometre island located in the southern Caribbean

Sea north of Venezuela.

The project, to be built over the next year, has a 15-year power purchase agreement with island utility WEBAruba. Vestas is supplying 10 units of V90-3MW wind turbines with delivery scheduled for third quarter 2009.





Always ready for the guests

Café Rembrandt goes Latino





















Aruba_TODAY



LOCAL A7
Tuesday, January 13, 2009

PALM BEACH - Café Rembrandt was the café of choice for a big group from Venezuela to have a public yet private party. Oscar and Erica, who got married in the afternoon, took a big bunch of family and friends for an impromptu after party. Owner Stef Leggers was on hand to ensure the party was fully taken care of, together with his expert staff. All that was needed now was to turn the music up, and to party! Latino hit after hit rolled by so the party outdid themselves dancing, not giving up until Rembrandts had to close for the night. Congratulations to the happy couple from the Aruba Today. 🔲













HAVANA DANCE DINNER & SHOW PACKAGE



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*Price includes show ticket and 3-course dinner show menu

Casa Tua makes the best pizzas; period.

a recipe perfected over thirty years

Casa Tua draws a crowd of local and not-so-local folks who can't seem to get enough of the pizza and the place. There's almost always a wait here, even if you have reservations, so place yourself at the bar with the smell of brick oven pizzas wafting to other tables, and knowing that at some point, that bliss will be yours.

Al fresco dining is designed with a chicly rustic feel. The atmosphere is cool and relaxed, "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian.

With a Sicilian-style thin crust, dripping with cheese best pizza. Period. and fresh-made tomato sauce, this pizza comes with a variety of toppings in the meat and veggie categories. Pasta dishes, full Italian meals like Lasagne and veal Osso Buco, fresh salads and rich desserts are also on the menu.



Casa Tua's famous secret thin crust recipe was handed down by an Italian chef, known locally as "the pizza master", in the French student city of Montpellier in 1969. This recipe has been perfected over the years to such a point where Casa Tua is known on the island these days for the

Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm. Casa Tua Downtown open from 11am to 11pm, on Sunday from 5pm to 11pm. For more information or reservations

Palm Beach: 586 8470 **Downtown:** 588 5695



Bar's open, come see for your self

Moby Dick's Kitchen opens Saturday the 17th

PASEO HERENCIA - Moby inside is studded with artwork

Dick's was a long time in the amazing glass carvings, and making, but the wait is now over. both floors are dominated by This week the bar went open for gigantic fountains, with water business, and the kitchen will running from ceiling to floor be open on Saturday the 17th of along multicoloured lit fibre optic January. What a truly beautiful cables. The stairway is lined by restaurant this is, and what a an impressive painting which unique interior to match. The runs along the complete wall.



The menu promises to has made a well rounded, dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive every whim. to say the least, and the So long story short, for cocktails are definitely worth a taste.

be a true seafood lovers extensive menu for you to choose from. You will find what you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the lubbers section for those friendliest on the island, ever so attentive to your

unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go Moby Dick's is open for to Moby Dick's. You'll lunch as well. The chef have a whale of a time!

Only the highest quality will do

Nobushi makes sushi like no one else



PASEO HERENCIA - Nobushi brings to Aruba the finest sushi. If you are in a hurry, go somewhere else. At Nobushi, every single piece gets the love and attention it needs from the professional Sushi chefs. The chefs specialize in Aruba Exotic Sushi and Asian Cuisine with unique flavors second to none. The ever so friendly staff will gladly explain the different dishes and specials to you, and help you with unique food & wine pairings.

Nobushi Sushi Bar & Asian Cuisine features a variety sashimi, sushi rolls,

chicken, fish and meat entrees that will enlighten your senses. Nobushi is located in the Paseo Herencia Mall across the Holiday Inn Resort.

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THE WESTIN

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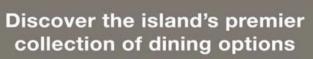




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Arubu_TODAY

Sunset Grille, a prime Steakhouse also offering Spa Cuisine



PALM BEACH – The Sunset unparalleled appetizers and Grille at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa needs no introduction. The award winning American steakhouse with its chic, cosmopolitan feat for steakhouses. atmosphere headlines Prime Beef, the highest grade U.S.D.A -- only 2% of all beef is graded prime, required to for the health conscious age a minimum of 4 weeks.

While steaks and chops make up the heart of the menu, the resort's Executive Chef Matt Boland and restaurant Chef Maarten Smeets innovated

extraordinary desserts, which helped the Sunset Grille achieve the Triple AAA's elite four-diamond status - a rare

Sunset Grille well-known as the number one steakhouse in Aruba offers also spa cuisine, visitors, featuring appetizers, salads and a wide array of seafood selections.

The spa cuisine dishes are balanced by enhancing flavors with citrus, spice and herbs and taste is elevated by marinating, smoking and grilling, Smeets explains.

"We now use many more herbs, vegetables, grains and fibers," adds Boland, "all designed to sustain a healthier life style; and we stay away from saturated fats and refined sugars, as well as use salt sparingly," he informs.

"The Sunset Grille kitchen," Boland reveals, "uses no trans fats, and our guests," he banters, "stay healthy, wealthy and wise with our new and exciting spa cuisine."

Among the patrons favorite dishes are, the Sunset Grille's famous Chop House Martini Salad, "Shaken not Stirred;" the lobster bisque with a pastry crust, the various cuts of prime beef, the popular Rack of Lamb, Stuffed Quail and the delicious Veal Oscar. The spa cuisine features items such as Tuna Tataki, the Spinach Salad, Chilean Seabass, grilled Swordfish and the Asian style Salmon and Scallops served with the

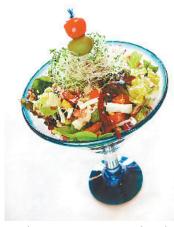


popular Soba Noodles.

The Sunset Grille always endeavors to exceed guests' expectations by purchasing the very best products available and preparing them in accordance with a combination of "tried and true" as well as cutting edge contemporary methods, Boland explains.

Simply put, the Sunset Grille culinary team buys the best products, and cooks them the best way they know, refusing to cut corners, especially when it comes to buying, aging and





cutting meat. No wonder the readers of Caribbean Travel & Life named it the top restaurant in the Caribbean.

The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda Beach Resort

Palm Beach -- The Juggling Fish is designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, as the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll find on the oceanfront boardwalk at Playa Linda is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts, souvenirs, beach and resort wear. It's all on display a few steps from the water.

The tastefully arranged store is

signature Jodi Tobman-Hagedoorn, the Boston-born owner of two other Juggling Fish stores at the Aruba Beach Club and next to The Olde Molen. You will find a great selection of kid gifts here. In fact an entire inner section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach wraps, throws and hats awaits you.

Gifthunters will also be pleased with the array of scented candles and candleholders. The store offers convenient barefoot browsing and is located within a short walking



distance from the Hyatt Regency and the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort.

The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda fits nicely into that resort's "Life's a Beach" philosophy. Open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday - Saturday and on Sunday, when the rest of the island is at a stand still, the helpful staff at The Juggling Fish is eager to serve you with a smile from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. Tel.: #586-4999

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PEOPLE & ARTS A11 Tuesday, January 13, 2009

Sequels, prequels, remakes lead 2009 pack

By DAVID GERMAIN,

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES – Hollywood boldly goes where we've all been before in 2009, with dozens of sequels, prequels, remakes, updates and adaptations based on books, video games and toys.

Despite the recession, blockbuster franchise flicks have rung up killer box-office returns. Studios hope that continues this year with such familiar names as "Harry Potter," "Hannah Montana," "Star Trek," "Transformers," "X-Men," "Alvin and the Chipmunks," "Ice Age," "The Terminator" and "Sherlock Holmes."

Fans of the world's favorite teen wizard have a particular reason to be itching for the next installment. It's been two years since a "Harry Potter" movie hit theaters, the longest interval since Warner Bros. began churning them out in 2001.

Part six, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," arrives this summer after a surprise delay, when the studio bumped it from its original slot last November.

"Half-Blood Prince" has Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) charged with unlocking secrets from the noggin of a new teacher (Jim Broadbent), information vital to the young wizard's ongoing battle with the evil Voldemoort.

Meantime, Harry struggles to get on with the usual teenage pressures of school, social activities and budding romance.

"We've got some really playful sequences and some material that obviously dips into the darker world of 'Potter,'" director David Yates said. "As the series matures, it tonally does get darker overall. It's sort of inevitable as you follow the material. The kids are getting older, more mature and complex."

Getting younger are the heroes of another otherworldly summer franchise. James Kirk, Spock and the rest of the Enterprise crew return in "Star Trek," a relaunch of the series featuring an all-new cast (though Leonard Nimoy is on hand to play the older Spock).

Director J.J. Abrams takes the sci-fi series back to its roots, explaining how the gang of interstellar explorers came together in the first place.

"For Kirk and Spock, it's charting their lives to a small extent from boyhood and their first encounter, which is a bit contentious, to kind of the beginning of the relationship we all know," said Chris Pine, who plays Kirk, the dashing Starfleet officer originated by William Shatner, opposite Zachary Quinto as the younger Spock.

"They are at odds at first. The conflict of the relationship actually gives Zachary a couple moments where he's not as controlled and rational as Mr. Nimoy's character was. He has a couple of outbursts that aren't exactly the classic Spock."

Other highlights of Hollywood's upcoming schedule:

Winter and spring:

ALL ABOUT STEVE: Sandra Bullock's a crossword-puzzle creator on a road trip in pursuit of her soul mate.

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC: A journalist (Isla Fisher) finds romance as she pursues her retail addiction.

DUPLICITY: Julia Roberts and Clive Owen are spies carrying on an affair amid a dangerous assignment. FAST AND FURIOUS: Vin Diesel and Paul Walker lead the original cast of "The Fast and the Furious" into a new racing thriller.

FRIDAY THE 13TH: The slasher franchise goes back to its beginning with an update of the horror tale about killer Jason Voorhees

HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE: Miley Cyrus brings her dual life as an ordinary school girl and pop star from TV to the big-screen.

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU: Ben Affleck, Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore and Scarlett Johansson lead the cast of this ensemble romance.

THE INTERNATIONAL: Clive Owen and Naomi Watts lead a probe into banks that finance terrorism.

JONAS BROTHERS: THE 3-DCONCERT EXPERIENCE: The Disney stars follow the hit "Hannah Montana" flick with their own concert movie.

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS: Reese Witherspoon leads the voice cast in an animated comedy about mutants battling an alien robot.

OBSERVE AND REPORT: Seth Rogen stars in the tale of an overzealous mall cop aiming to get into the police academy.

THE PINK PANTHER 2: Steve Martin's Inspector Clouseau bumbles through an investigation of stolen treasures.

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN: Dwayne Johnson's a cabbie aiding fugitive teens with special powers in a remake of "Escape to Witch Mountain."

17 AGAIN: Zac Efron and Matthew Perry star in a comedy about a middle-aged loser transformed back to his teen years.

THE SOLOIST: Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr. star in a drama about a music prodigy living on the streets.

STATE OF PLAY: Russell Crowe and Ben Affleck star in a murder mystery set among the elite of Washington, D.C.

STREET FIGHTER: THE LEGEND OF CHUN-LI: The video-game sensation is adapted into an action tale of warriors in Bangkok.

THE UGLY TRUTH: Romance is in the air for a lovelorn TV producer (Katherine Heigl) and a tough on-air personality (Gerard Butler).

UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS: The roots of an ancient feud between vampires and werewolves are explored in this prequel.

WATCHMEN: A superhero's murder casts his old associates into the investigation of a global conspiracy against their kind. Summer season:

ANGELS & DEMONS: Tom Hanks and director Ron Howard follow up "The Da Vinci Code" with this showdown between the Vatican and a secret brotherhood.

BRUNO: "Borat" star Sacha Baron Cohen takes another of his alter egos, Austrian fashionista Bruno, on the road.

DRAG ME TO HELL: "Spider-Man" and "Evil Dead" director Sam Raimi returns to his horror roots with this tale of a cursed woman.

FUNNY PEOPLE: Adam Sandler, Seth Rogen and director Judd Apatow aim for laughs with a serious story about a dying comedian.

G-FORCE: Nicolas Cage and Penelope Cruz are among the voice cast of an action comedy about guinea pigs trained as covert pperatives

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST: Matthew McConaughey and Jennifer Garner star in the tale of a womanizer visited by the spirits of his jilted exes.

G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA: The Hasbro toys go into action in this tale of military operatives hunting an arms dealer

ICE AGE: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS: Ray Romano and his prehistoric pals return in part three of the animated franchise.

I LOVE YOU BETH COOPER: Hayden Panettiere stars in a romance about a teen geek who gets his shot with the school bottie

IMAGINE THAT: Eddie Murphy's a dad whose daughter's imaginary world holds the key to solving his personal crises.

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS: Brad Pitt stars in Quentin Tarantino's World War II epic that's a throwback to "Dirty Dozen"-style war action.

LAND OF THE LOST: Will Ferrell's a scientist hurled into a world of dinosaurs in this update of the TV show.

MY SISTER'S KEEPER: Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin star in a drama about a girl conceived as a donor for her ailing sister.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN: The national museum comes alive in Ben Stiller's comedy sequel.

THE PROPOSAL: Sandra Bullock's a book editor trying to avoid deportation by marrying her harried assistant (Ryan Reynolds).

PUBLIC ENEMIES: Johnny Depp and Christian Bale star in Michael Mann's saga of Depression-era gangster John Dillinger. THE TAKING OF PELHAM 1 2 3: Denzel Washington and John Travolta star in the remake about crooks who hijack a subway train for ransom.

TERMINATOR: SALVATION: Christian Bale leads humanity's remnants against machine enemies in the franchise's first flick without Arnold Schwarzenegger.

TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN: Shia LaBeouf and his giant Autobot buddies team up for a rematch against the tyrannical Deceptions.

2012: John Cusack stars in an action epic about the end of the world and what comes after

UP: The latest from Pixar Animation ("WALL-E") follows the balloon adventure of an old man and a boy stowaway.

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE: Hugh Jackman goes solo in a prequel to the "X-Men" movies spelling out the back-story of his mysterious superhero.

YEAR ONE: Jack Black and Michael Cera are primitive outcasts on an epic romp through ancient history.

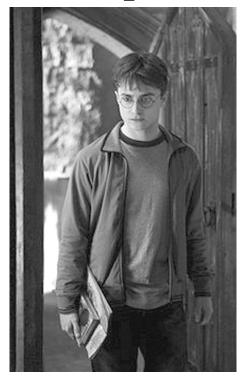
Fall and holidays:

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKUEL: The talking chipmunks return for part two of their big-screen adventures.

AVATAR: "Titanic" director James Cameron spins a sci-fi epic about a humanalien hybrid fighting for his people's survival.

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Jim Carrey does multiple roles as Scrooge and the holiday ghosts in Robert Zemeckis' animated Dickens adaptation.

FAME: Students sing, dance and dream of



In this image released by Warner Bros., Daniel Radcliffe is shown in a scene from 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.'

(AP Photo/Warner Bros., Jaap Buitendjik)

stardom in a new take on the hit film and TV show about a school for performing arts.

THE FANTASTIC MR. FOX: George Clooney's the mouthpiece for a sly fox stealing chickens from dopey farmers in this animated comedy.

THE INFORMANT: Matt Damon stars in Steven Soderbergh's tale of a corporate whistle-blower with secrets of his own.

THE LOVELY BONES: Peter Jackson ("The Lord of the Rings") directs Mark Wahlberg and Rachel Weisz in a drama about a slain girl playing guardian angel for her family.

NEW MOON: Young love between an awkward teenager and an ageless vampire continues in the "Twilight" sequel starring Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson.

OLD DOGS: A bachelor and a divorced man (John Travolta and Robin Williams) become the unexpected caretakers of 6-vear-old twins.

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG: Disney returns to old-school hand-drawn animation with an update of the classic frog prince fairy tale.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: Robert Downey Jr. has the lead in this latest take on literature's most-famous detective.

SHUTTER ISLAND: Leonardo DiCaprio and director Martin Scorsese pair up again for a story of U.S. marshals on a case at an insane asylum.

TOOTH FAIRY: It's tutu time for Dwayne Johnson, who plays a hockey player magically sentenced to serving a week as the mythical Tooth Fairy.

UP IN THE AIR: George Clooney's a corporate hatchet man whose job is in jeopardy due to corporate downsizing.

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE: Director Spike Jonze adapts the children's classic about a boy with a fantastical world as his personal playground.

THE WOLFMAN: Benicio Del Toro turns werewolf in this new take on the horror classic that co-stars Anthony Hopkins.

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 BUSINESS

Aruba_TODAY

BUSIES TODAY

Financier Madoff stays in penthouse, avoids jail

By LARRY NEUMEISTER,

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK – A judge allowed disgraced investor Bernard Madoff to remain free on bail Monday, rejecting an attempt by prosecutors to send him to jail for mailing more than \$1 million in jewelry to family and friends over the holidays.

The decision means Madoff will avoid having to leave the comfort of his \$7 million penthouse and await trial in a cramped jail cell with nothing but bunkbeds, a sink and toilet. Madoff will remain under house arrest and under the constant watch of security guards.

The ruling further outraged investors who have been clamoring for Madoff to be sent to jail for allegedly carrying out the largest financial fraud in history. They find it shocking that Madoff is free on bail, despite distributing assets that could be used to help repay investors who lost billions.

Stephen A. Weiss, a lawyer for several dozen Madoff investors, said there "are people on the street who are very unhappy" with the ruling. "There is a thirst for blood that transcends just those who have been victimized. There is a feeling ... that folks like Bernard Madoff get a different brand of justice than the guy in the street," Weiss said.

The judge acknowledged the huge public interest in the case, but said that sound legal considerations must take priority. He said that prosecutors failed to make a good enough argument that keeping Madoff free on bail represents an economic harm to the community.

"The issue at this stage of the criminal proceedings is not whether Madoff has been charged in perhaps the largest Ponzi scheme ever, not whether Madoff's alleged actions should result in his widespread disapprobation by the public, nor even what is appropriate punishment after conviction," Magistrate Judge Ronald L. Ellis wrote.

"The government fails to provide sufficient evidence that any potential future dissemination of Madoff's assets would rise to the level of an economic harm," the judge wrote.

The anxiously awaited bail decision does put additional restrictions on Madoff, including forcing him to come up with a list of items at his apartment and allowing a security firm to check on the items. The security company will also be allowed to search all outgoing mail from Madoff to ensure that no property has been transferred.

"It is highly suspect that a man as sophisticated as Madoff appears to be did not pause to consider the possible ramifications of this proposed course of action on his release conditions," the judge said. "Given Madoff's failing in this regard, it is appropriate that his ability to transfer property be restricted as completely as possible."

The decision can be appealed, but prosecutors have not said if they will do so. Yusill Scribner, a spokeswoman for prosecutors, said the government had no comment on the ruling.

Defense lawyer Ira Sorkin says the bail opinion "speaks for itself and we intend to comply with the judge's order." Sorkin has said the gifts were an innocent mistake and said he is neither a danger to the community nor a threat to flee.

In a separate decision, another magistrate signed off on an extension for the deadline to indict Madoff until Feb. 11. That means Madoff will remain free for at least another month, provided he does not violate conditions of the bail.

Chinese automakers face headwinds to US sales

By DAVID RUNK, Associated Press Writer

DETROIT – Chinese automakers looking to make the jump to the key U.S. market are facing increasingly strong headwinds, including a global financial crisis that has slowed growth where they already sell cars and sapped the potential for partnerships that would ease their expansion.

But BYD Auto Co. and Brilliance Auto are making China's most prominent appearance yet at this year's North American International Auto Show — sandwiched between General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co.'s displays, instead of tucked away in the basement or outside the main exhibits. And they remain interested in eventually selling in the U.S., although that looks to be years away.

"We will start to develop sales and distribution networks in North America," Wang Chua-Fu, chairman and president of BYD, saidatanews conference Monday, the second day of media previews at the Detroit show. He said plans call for U.S. manufacturing facilities "when it is appropriate."

Henry Z. Li, general manager of BYD's auto export trade division, said the company has set a target of 2011 to sell two models that it's showing in Detroit — the e6, which is an all-electric crossover with a 250-mile range, and the F6DM, a plug-in hybrid sedan. By then, he said, BYD hopes to sell the Chinese-built vehicles in a market that's recovered from its current slide.

"I think the most important thing for us is to bring the right product and that product can prove itself," Li told The Associated Press on Sunday. "It's the product that builds



the brand. It's not the brand that builds the product."

U.S. auto sales tumbled to 13.2 million in 2008, down 18 percent from 16.1 million in 2007. Some analysts predict this year's sales will hit 10.5 million, making the prospect of bringing new lines of Chinese vehicles into that market much more daunting.

"The U.S. for a long time was sort of seen as the combination of the Holy Grail and the cash cow," said Rebecca Lindland, an auto industry analyst with the consulting firm IHS Global Insight. "You could come here and, as the world's largest single market, you could make a lot of money here.

"All that being said, right now the U.S. is leading the charge in terms of this global recession. Suddenly, we are not a cash cow and it is a very expensive market to participate in."

Jesse Toprak, executive director of industry analysis for the Edmunds.com automotive Web site, said he sees potential for Chinese automakers to sell in the U.S. — especially those looking to market relatively inexpensive, smaller vehicles. But the Chinese will face a skeptical buying public.

"In this time of economic uncertainty, consumers tend to make safer choices. They don't know about the quality of the Chinese vehicles," Toprak said. "Initially, I think

it's going to be an uphill battle for them."

Chinese companies are relatively new to the Detroit auto show, but their presence is growing more regular. In 2006, a lone Geely Automobile Co. sedan sitting outside the main exhibit halls marked the first time a Chinese automaker displayed in Detroit. This year, with the basement hall taken up by a driving track and several automakers skipping the show, China got a more visible spot.

Predictions had called for cars made by Chery Automobile Co., China's biggest domestic automaker, to make the jump to the U.S. as soon as 2010 under Chrysler's Dodge brand. But Chrysler LLC and Chery announced last month that they had called off talks on cooperation due to the global financial crisis.

At last year's Detroit show, China's Changfeng Motor stuck by its 2009 target for exporting to the U.S., and China America Cooperative Automotive Inc., an importer, showed a pickup and SUV made by a Chinese company and offered similar sales hopes. But details on those plans haven't materialized.

"We have to see some recovery in this market before you can build a business case for starting a business in this market," Lindland said.



Japan to launch multi-satellite mission

By MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press Writer

TOKYO – Japan got its first commercial order to launch a satellite on a homegrown rocket on Monday, a deal that Japanese officials hope will grow into a business that could support the country's cash-strapped space program.

The agreement — which targets a liftoff date after April 2011 - comes less than two weeks before Japan plans to launch eight satellites into space to show that its H2A rocket can compete with rivals in Russia, the United States and Asia's new space powerhouse, China. Japan's space program has long been focused entirely on lifting government-sponsored, unmanned payloads — mainly scientific, telecommunications and spy satellites, which it first launched 10 years ago — off the launch pad.

But officials are hoping that commercial use would help fund Japan's long-term space development, which Tokyo believes is an essential part of national security.

The primary mission of the Jan. 21 launch from remote Tanegashima island, where Japan's main space station is based, is to send into orbit a greenhouse-gas monitoring satellite called "Ibuki," which means "breath." But along with

the main payload, the rocket will carry seven "baby satellites" — one developed by JAXA, the government space agency, and six created by university research centers and private industry.

JAXA decided to open the payload up to the private sector because it had extra launching power and wanted to display its capabilities for commercial use.

"If we can successfully launch the seven mini satellites, this could be an excellent precedent for commercial use in the future," said Asaka Hagiwara, spokeswoman for JAXA, whose official name is Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. In a promising sign, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd., which makes the H2A rocket, signed an agreement Monday with the Korea Aerospace Research Institute to launch its multipurpose Arirang 3 satellite. It was the first commercial order for use of a Japanesemade rocket. The price was not disclosed.

The H2A rocket was initially designed and built as a government project in which Mitsubishi Heavy took part. The rocket project has since been privatized as a business of Mitsubishi Heavy, now considered a vital part of Japan's space program.

Japan has long been one of the world's leading space-faring nations — having launched its first satellite in 1970 — but it has been struggling to get out from under China's shadow in recent years and gain a niche in the global rocket-launching business, which is dominated by Russia, the U.S. and Europe's Arianespace.

Becoming a commercial space power would help Japan keep apace of an intensifying space race in Asia.

Struggling under a relatively small budget — 188 billion yen (\$2 billion) in 2008 — Japan has watched rival China march ahead with high-profile manned flights and is now seeing a growing rival in India, which has set its sights on reaching the moon.

China has already built up lucrative commercial satellite launching services. It launched a communications satellite for Nigeria in 2007 and another for Venezuela last year.

Japan is keenly aware that its space program has crucial implications for national security.

Lance Gatling, an independent space and defense expert, said that while commercial success would be a nice outcome, Japan believes it needs to keep its rocket program in good shape for defensive reasons.



"They want to be able to launch a satellite and not tell anybody where it's going. There are many reasons to do that," he said, referring to North Korea and other regional concerns. "If it was a commercial business, it would have been shut down years ago."

Underscoring the military realities, Japan's parliament last year voted to allow the nation's space programs to be used for defense for the first time. The law, one of several recent moves to give greater freedom to the armed forces, allows the military to develop advanced spy satellites for intelligence and a missile defense shield being built jointly with the United States.

Japan's current spy satellite program is run by a civilian agency.

JAXA official Takao Eto, who is in charge of coordinating the piggybacks, said the agency has already selected four other piggybacks for a launch in 2011. They will be launched for free, but JAXA is considering charging a launch fee in the future.

Takeshi Maemura, head of space systems for Mitsubishi Heavy, said Japan's launch cost has come down to a competitive level. He said the standard for a competitive launch — largely

set by Russia's Proton rocket — used to be around 7 billion yen (\$75 million), but has now risen to around 9 billion (\$97 million).

JAXA says this month's launch will cost about 8.5 billion yen (\$91.7 million) — the lowest ever

"The cost has reached a level where we can be quite competitive," Maemura said. He said Mitsubishi Heavy has received dozens of offers for satellite launches. "Our launch cost is getting pretty close."

According to the space agency's Web site, Ibuki will monitor the concentration of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere and is "expected to play an important role in monitoring global environmental changes." The piggyback satellites have missions that vary from measuring gamma radiation to monitoring lightning.

The total project cost is estimated at 34.6 billion yen (\$372.8 million).

JAXA spokesman Tatsuo Oshima said it is counting on orders from the military.

"With the new law that allows space programs for defense purposes, we expect there will be more opportunities for development and launches of various kinds of satellites," he said.

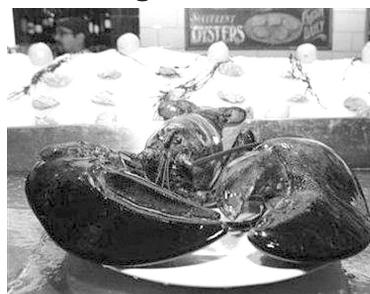
At age 140, lobster to regain his freedom

NEW YORK – A lobster thought to be about 140 years old will be returned to the ocean after briefly becoming the mascot for a New York City restaurant, an animal rights group said on Friday.

The 20-pound (9-kg) lobster was caught off the coast of Canada about two weeks ago and bought for \$100 by City Crab and Seafood to become its mascot, said manager Keith Valenti.

"We bought a big lobster, started taking pictures with kids and it worked out real well," said Valenti, adding it was a "no brainer" to return the old crustacean to the ocean.

He said a lobster's age can be worked out from how much it weighs, with each pound counting for 7 to 10 years. Valenti said it was not



uncommon for lobsters to live for more than 100 years but it was rare for them to be caught because they were generally too big for the baskets.

The group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said it found out that the old lobster was in the restaurant's tank when a diner called them

"We applaud the folks at City Crab and Seafood for their compassionate decision to allow this noble old-timer to live out his days in freedom and peace," said PETA's Ingrid Newkirk. Tuesday, January 13, 2009 COMMENTARY

2009 Detroit Auto Show: More Steak, Less Sizzle

By David Kiley

DETROIT - In contrast to the razzle-dazzle and boosterism of years past, the atmosphere at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit this week is a somber one. With U.S. automakers battling to survive and to avoid bankruptcy, a worsening economy, and some major manufacturers bypassing the show altogether, there is a worry that public attendance will be much lower than in past years.

Even with all the bad news, most auto companies are taking the attitude that the show must go on. And for host companies General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler, it is expected to be a show with little in the way of bombastic presentations or crazy vehicles that look as if they are destined more for video games than showrooms. Instead, it's meat-and-potatoes time, with Detroit automakers concentrating almost entirely on electric vehicles and newly designed cars and crossovers aimed at their fastest-growing categories, meant to sell in large numbers and cut into the market shares of Asian rivals. General Motors, which has to prove "financial viability" to the U.S. government in order to keep the \$13.4 billion loan it is receiving to stay afloat, is not expected to show any 1,000horsepower concept cars. Instead, one of the highlights is a redesigned Chevrolet Equinox compact crossover SUV. Despite this category being the fastest-growing over the past eight years, the old Equinox was a poor entry. "No question that we could have

The headline on the new Equinox, which arrives in showrooms in mid-2009, is that GM expects the new 4-cylinder, 2.4-liter directinjection engine to earn a government fuel economy rating of 30 mpg/highway. That is a 25% improvement over the V6 engine, which was the only one offered in the current Equinox, and 2 to 3 mpg better than the current Toyota and Honda offerings. A 3.0-liter V6 is also available. "The compact crossover SUV category is crucial because it draws buyers

and should have done better,"

says Ed Peper, Chevy brand

chief for GM. "Our margin for

mistakes or launching vehicles

that aren't 100% competitive is

zero."



from every age, and that Chevy has been a minor player has been a crime," says independent marketing consultant Dennis Keene.

Problems Addressed

The current Equinox, with 2008 sales of just 67,000 compared with 287,000 Honda CRVs and 173,000 Ford Escapes, has also been criticized for a bland exterior, a cheapish interior, and too few standard features. The new one attacks all fronts with a more stylish exterior, six standard airbags, fourwheel disc brakes, StabiliTrak electronic stability control and traction control, as well as standard OnStar. The interior plastics are higher grade, and the new layout of the instrument panel has a much more premium feel. "They seem to have fixed everything that was wrong with the old one," says Rebecca Lindland, an analyst with IHS Global Insight.

GM also is delivering a new Buick LaCrosse sedan the likes of which few Realtors and suburban bank officers (Buick's traditional buyers) have seen before.

Having sold just 37,000 LaCrosses last year, many would think the car isn't that important. But it represents a global design that GM will sell from the Chinatown sections of San Francisco and New York and all points in between, as well as China itself, where the Buick brand remains robust.

To modernize the design with the hope of lowering the average age of buyers in the U.S. from 63, GM turned to some of its youngest lead designers. "The designs that stand out today, here, as well as in China, are the cars that make people stop and say, 'Wow, what is that?" says Justin Thompson, 33, who designed the exterior of the sedan.

"A Huge Step Forward"
The outside of the car looks

more contoured than we have seen from Detroit in decades. Inside, the car is all about comfort, with rich leather seats, a walnut-trimmed console, and video screens in the front-seat headrests for rear passengers. "It takes the brand and this particular model a huge step forward, but the brand still means 'old' in the U.S.," says James Hall of auto consultancy 2953 Analytics.

Rounding out GM's offerings is a newly redesigned Cadillac SRX crossover SUV. Again, this car represents "steak" for GM, as an upgrade of their entry into one of the most important segments in the industry -luxury crossover priced between \$35,000 and \$50,000. The 2010 model, on sale later this year, is quite an improvement over the current one, which appeared tall and ungainly. The new offering is more than six inches shorter and two inches wider. In keeping with a trend to smaller engines and more fuel economy, the new SRX only comes with a choice of V6 engines -- one a 3.0-liter, the other a 2.8-liter.

Why is SRX so important? GM's Mark McNabb, who oversees Cadillac, says the category "is going to continue to win over people who previously bought bigger, heavier SUVs like the Cadillac Escalade." Caddy is also selling a wagon version of its popular CTS because it sees so much potential for the segment in the U.S., as well as in Europe where both cars will sell.

While the car looks terrific, one issue may be some loss of cachet when the hard-core Caddy fans start talking about the fact that it isn't built off the same platform as the Cadillac CTS, but the platform underpinning the Chevy Equinox/Pontiac Torrent.

Remaking Taurus

For Ford, its meat and potatoes is a newly redesigned Taurus



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sedan and a Lincoln MKT crossover.

Ford is hoping the public will give it a do-over on the Taurus. First, Ford botched the redesign in the mid-1990s, making it look like a football on four wheels. It milked that mistake until 2006 and announced the Taurus name would go away. Then, finding that its Five Hundred sedan wasn't grabbing any attention, it rechristened the car the Taurus, while it renamed the Ford Freestyle crossover the Taurus X. Confused? Join the club.

The 2010 Taurus, though, should be enough to wipe out the memory banks. The sedan, though built on the same very good engineering platform that underpins the current Taurus, Ford Flex, and Lincoln MKS, resembles Ford's European Mondeo sedan more than it maintains any connection to the Taurus in showrooms today.

"This puts Taurus back where it belongs," says Ford Chief of Design J Mays. If the bulbous arced roofline of the Taurus gave it an almost comically appliance-like look, as if manufactured for people over 6 feet 7 inches to fit, the redesign carries the look of a well-cut

off-the-rack suit. Indeed, Moray Callum, director of Ford's car and crossover design, says it is not so much a "family car," which he says is still the minivan and SUV, but rather a "me car" that he reckons will appeal to people who like a four-door sedan with "presence," whether the buyer is 30 or 60. "If this design doesn't restore Taurus in the buyer's mind, I don't know what will," says Callum.

It's hard to recall that Taurus was once the best-selling car in the U.S. back in the early 1990s. But the company only sold 53,000 Taurus sedans last year, and a big chunk of them were rental cars. The automaker would like to see at least 75,000 retail customers in the car's first full year on sale, in 2010. To draw them in, the Taurus sports a refined interior one might expect to see in a Lexus or Mercedes (NYSE:DAI -News) and an array of options including push-button start, steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters, keyless entry, rainsensing wipers, adaptive cruise control, heated and cooled seats, all-wheel-drive, and lumbar seat supports that change automatically on long trips to help the driver's circulation.



ADVERTISEMENT A15 Tuesday, January 13, 2009



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trubu TODAY

Casa Tua's delicacies now found in Oranjestad

Also open for lunch



Casa Tua restaurant in Palm Beach in the Arawak Gardens now has a twin Casa Tua in Downtown Oranjestad upstairs in the Aventura Mall overlooking the Daniel Leo Plaza. This restaurant presents a fresh approach to dining in Aruba. The name says it all "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian and you are welcome tonight to delight in the savory hot and cold tapas.

Casa Tua boasts the unique opportunity to sample the "Pata Negra" which is "Jamon Iberico", considered the absolute

PALM BEACH - The famous highest quality ham. The flavor and texture of the ham is the only one of its kind and the experience of the chef carving your personal slice is irreplaceable.

> The menu varies with a wide array of Italian dishes including a Sicilian-style thin crust pizza dripping with cheese, fresh-made tomato sauce and a variety of toppings in the meat, seafood and veggie categories.

> The menu doesn't stop there as Casa Tua features incredible appetizers including shrimp bruschetta, fresh marinated seafood, escargots, amazing

salads, homemade soups starting at \$6 and authentic Italian lasagnas & pastas starting at just \$14. The staff at this popular eatery has set the standard on the island for the term "great service" not only with your dinning pleasure, but recognized as 'the' professionals in assisting guests with the perfect cocktail, paired wine or other beverages.

After just one dinner at Casa Tua, you'll know your home in this family owned eatery. Victor Nataf and his sons Daveed and Gregory are always there to welcome you with the rest of





their staff. Gregory spends most of his time in the kitchen as the head chef repeating the recipes and perfect preparations passed to him from his uncle and three siblings who are renowned for their Mediterranean flair throughout France.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu, or Profiteroles au Chocolat Chaud.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...

Opening Hours: 11:00 AM 11:00PM

For more information reservations please call Tel: (297) 588-5695.



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PALM BEACH - Fishes and More Restaurant opened up in the Arawak Gardens just 3 and a half years ago and has been a great success since day one.

Word on the street is that once you eat at Fishes and More, consider yourself addicted. The owners Jeroen Kuling and Hans Heijink together with the staff Romalo, Heidi, Mariella, Denise and Chef Gerben work hard keeping the restaurant open 7 days a week from 4 pm till 11pm for everyone to enjoy. The ambiance at the restaurant

is out of this world, whether dinning inside in the relaxed air-conditioned dinning room or outside on the terrace to enjoy the tropical







breeze and daily live music. and even singles who can't

for the daily fresh catch- of Pina Colada Shrimp. es, such as Red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi, For those who like to try wahoo and tuna. Check something different or have

happy to prepare your fish er schnitzel, veal parmethe way you like it best: san, and pasta specialties. grilled, deep-fried, pan- Great Seafood!!! Fun and fried or the chef's choice. relaxed atmosphere. Right

Every Wednesday, seafood hotels. specials are prepared depending on what the Fisher- It is worth the short walk to men bring in fresh out of the a wonderful dinner water that afternoon. These specials usually include fresh Caribbean lobster and pounds of peeled shrimps. Fishes and More is for everyone, from large groups, families, couples

shake the seafood addic-Most guests come in early tion can stop in for a fix

with the server to find out had their fill of spectacuabout the Catch of the day. lar seafood, the chef prepares a wonderful array of The chef will be more than filet mignon, rib eye, wienacross from the high rise

OpenDaily from 4 pm till 11 pm.

For info. and reservations, call 586-3659

J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 370 Palm Beach, Arawak Gardens





On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Tuesday, January 13, 2009



President George W. Bush gestures during a news conference, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, in the pressroom at the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

Bush gets emotional, defends record in Iraq, and domestic

By JENNIFER LOVEN

AP White House Correspondent WASHINGTON - With rare public emotion, George W. Bush sat in judgment on his controversial, consequential presidency Monday, lamenting mistakes but

on disasters in Iraq and at home and offering kindly advice to a successor who won largely because the nation ached for something new. By turns wistful, aggressive and joking in his final news conference, claiming few as his own, Bush covered a huge range

heatedly defending his record of topics in summing up his eight years in the White House — the latest in a recent string of efforts to have his say before historians have theirs. Then the White House said he would do it again Thursday night in a final address to the nation.

Continued on Next Page

Israeli leader warns **Hamas of 'iron fist'**



In this photo released by the Israeli army, Israeli soldiers walk towards the northern Gaza Strip as seen from the Israeli border with Gaza, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009.

Associated Press

By IBRAHIM BARZAK

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) - Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert stood within Hamas rocket range Monday and warned Islamic militants that they face an "iron fist" unless they agree to Israeli terms for an end to war in the Gaza Strip.

Hamas showed no signs of wavering, however, with its leader, Ismail Haniyeh, saying the militants were "closer to victory."

Despite the tough words, Egypt said it was making slow progress in brokering a truce, and special Mideast envoy Tony Blair said elements were in place for a cease-fire.

As Olmert spoke in the Israeli city of Ashkelon, Israeli tanks, gunboats and warplanes hammered suspected hiding places of Hamas operatives who control the poor, densely populated territory just across the border.

After nightfall, flares and explosions lit up the sky over Gaza and heavy gunfire was heard in parts of the coastal territory of 1.4 million people.

Continued on Page B6

w restrictions on Madoff, but no jai

By LARRY NEUMEISTER Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - A U.S. judge allowed disgraced investor Bernard Madoff to remain free on bail Monday, rejecting an attempt by prosecutors to send him to jail for mailing more than \$1 million in jewelry to family and friends over the holidays.

The decision means Madoff will avoid having to leave the comfort of his \$7 million penthouse and await trial in a cramped jail cell with nothing but bunkbeds, a sink and toilet. Madoff will remain under house arrest and under the constant watch of security guards.

The ruling further outraged investors who have been clamoring for Madoff to be sent to jail for allegedly carrying out the largest financial fraud in history. They find it shocking that Madoff is free on bail, despite distributing assets that could be used to help repay investors who lost billions. Stephen A. Weiss, a lawyer for several dozen Madoff investors, said there "are people on the street who are very unhappy" with the ruling.

"There is a thirst for blood that transcends just those who

have been victimized. There is a feeling ... that folks like Bernard Madoff get a different brand of justice than the guy in the street," Weiss said.

The judge acknowledged the huge public interest in the case, but said that sound legal considerations must take priority. He said that prosecutors failed to make a good enough argument that keeping Madoff free on bail represents an economic harm to the community.

"The issue at this stage of the criminal proceedings is not whether Madoff has been charged in perhaps the largest (pyramid) scheme ever, not whether Madoff's alleged actions should result in his widespread disapprobation by the public, nor even what is appropriate punishment after conviction," Magistrate Judge Ronald L. Ellis wrote.

"The government fails to provide sufficient evidence that any potential future dissemination of Madoff's assets would rise to the level of an economic harm," the judge wrote. The anxiously awaited bail decision does put additional restrictions on Madoff, including forcing him to come up with a list of items at his apartment and allowing a security firm to check on the items.



In this Jan. 5, 2009 file photo, disgraced financier Bernard Madoff, left, leaves U.S. District Court in Manhattan escorted by U.S. Marshals after a bail hearing in New York.

Associated Press

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 U.S. NEWS







White House Press Secretary Dana Perino briefs reporters on the President Bush's schedule, including a planned Oval Office meeting with President-elect Barack Obama with former Presidents Bill Clinton, George H. W. Bush, and Jimmy Carter, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009, at the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

BUSH GETS EMOTIONAL Continued from Page B1

Reaching back to his first day in office, he recalled walking into the White House and having "a moment" when he felt all the responsibilities of the job landing on his shoulders. Barack Obama will feel that next week, he said, his tone gently understanding.

Indeed, he was full of supportive words for Obama — the nation's first black president - and talked of being deeply affected while watching people say on television that they never thought they would see such a day, many with "tears streaming down their cheeks when they said it."

"President-elect Obama's election does speak volumes about how far this country has come when it comes to racial relations," Bush said, seeming almost awe-struck.

He brushed off any suggestion that he'd found the job of president too burdensome — or that Obama would find it so. "It's just pathetic, isn't it, self-pity?" he said. "And I don't believe that President-elect Obama will be full of self-pity."

At the same time, Bush showed his skin is not so thick as all that. "Sometimes the biggest disappointments will come from your so-called friends," he advised Obama. Bush's former press secretary, Scott McClellan, released a scathing tell-all book last year that still stings around the West Wing. Asked one last time by reporters

about the major controversies of his presidency, Bush had a ready answer for each:

• On the dismal economy he leaves behind for Obama, Bush said, "I inherited a recession, I'm ending on a recession. In the meantime, there were 52 months of uninterrupted job growth." The 2001 recession began in March, two months into his presidency, but economists agree the seeds were sown long before.

Bush also defended himself against economic attacks from his own party on the huge government bailout of Wall Street financial firms. He said, his voice rising, "If you were sitting there and heard that the depression could be greater than the Great Depression, I hope you would act, too, which I did." • On the five-year-old Iraq war, the issue that will define his presidency, Bush said history will judge his actions but it is a fact that violence diminished and everyday life became more stable after his decision in 2007 to send an additional 30,000 American troops into the fight.

• He vigorously took issue with critics of the federal response to Katrina, the hurricane that devastated New Orleans. Gesturing and speaking with feeling, he said, "Don't tell me the federal response was slow when there were 30,000 people pulled off roofs right after the storm passed," he said. "Has the reconstruction been perfect? No. Have things happened fairly quickly? Absolutely."



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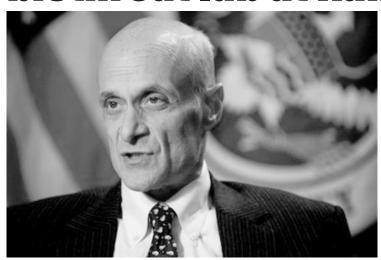


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DHS approves \$450M biothreat lab at Kansas State



Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is interviewed by The Associated Press, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009, in Washington. **Associated Press**

By JOHN MILBURN Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA, Kansas (AP) - The Department of Homeland Security has approved a site at Kansas State University for a \$450 million lab to study livestock diseases and some of the world's most dangerous biological threats.

The department released its final record of the approval Monday, confirming a decision announced in December to build the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility at the Manhattan, Kansas, campus to replace an aging lab at Plum Island, New York.

Sites in Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas were also considered for the new lab, where animal diseases and other potential bioterrorism threats will be researched. The federal agency said factors in its decision included the proximity of the site to Kansas State's research labs

and its colleges of agriculture and veterinary medicine.

Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he will work to ensure the project is fully funded. The state has agreed to provide more than \$105 million in infrastructure improvements at the site to cover additional costs. "This is great news. NBAF is a great win for Kansas and Kansas is a great win for NBAF," said Brownback, a Republican.

The laboratory is to be built on 59 acres at Kansas State near the Biosecurity Research Institute, where similar activities are conducted on plant and animal diseases.

University officials have said that the lab could conduct a portion of the research that will be done at NBAF until that facility is completed, which is expected to be by 2015.

The lab is expected to generate

about 1,500 construction jobs and a payroll of \$25 million to \$30 million for more than 500 employees, including 300 researchers.

Republican Sen. Pat Roberts called the decision "one of the most significant investments to the Kansas economy in state history."

"With this new lab, Kansas will cement its reputation as the nation's leader in plant and animal health research and the biosciences," Roberts said. "We will reap the benefits of a cutting edge industry while protecting the nation's food supply and agricultural economy for years to come." Critics of NBAF raised

concerns about the safety of people living near the lab, including in oncampus housing. They also said thousands of head of livestock in the region would be vulnerable if pathogens escaped from the facility.

Officials in Texas and Mississippi have threatened litigation over the decision.

Last week, Texas Gov. Rick Perry called the selection process unfair because his state's legislators weren't in session in 2008 and unable to consider a financial package to augment the state's bid.

Mississippi Gov. Halev Barbour said last month when the initial recommendation was made that the process was flawed and that his state should have been awarded the project.

FBI reports crime fell in early 2008

in the first half of 2008, despite an alarming spike in small-town murders.

Violent crime nationwide fell 3.5 percent, and property crime dropped 2.5 percent, according to the bureau's preliminary figures released Monday morning.

Murders dropped 4.4 percent nationwide, though the drop wasn't universal. In mid-sized cities — those with 50,000 to 100,000 people murder and manslaughter increased 3.3 percent.

Murders in small towns — those with fewer than 10,000 people — rose nearly 10 percent, the FBI reported.

In the Midwest, police departments reported a 6 percent drop in violent crimes. In the West,

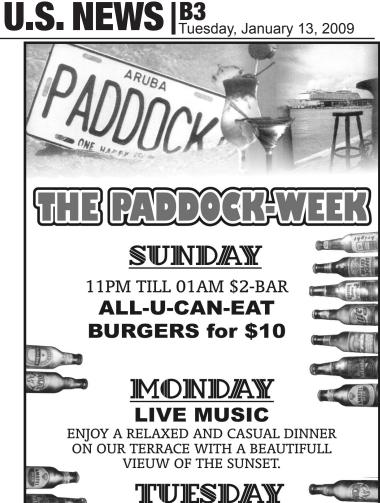
WASHINGTON – The FBI says crime declined the decrease was 5 percent, while the Northeast saw a 2.9 percent drop and the South a 1.5 percent decline.

The slumping economy made it a bad year for car dealers, but 2008 was a bad year for car stealers, as well. Motor vehicle thefts plunged 12.6 percent, according to the FBI.

In big cities, forcible rapes increased 3.4 percent, while nationwide such attacks declined by about the same amount, 3.3 percent.

The latest FBI data indicates violent crime has fallen for a second straight year, after increases in 2006 and 2005.

The crime rate began to rise after historic lows that began during the Clinton administration and continued into President Bush's first years in the White House.



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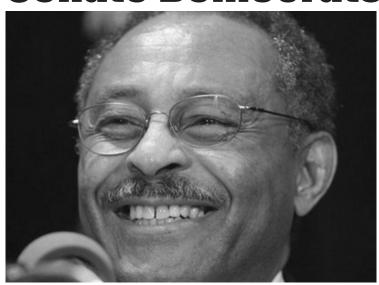
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Aruba TODAY

Senate Democrats to swear in Burris to



Illinois U.S. Senate appointee Roland Burris smiles during a news conference in Chicago, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, after hearing he would be seated in the Senate later this week.

Associated Press

By LIZ SIDOTI

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - Eager to put the scandal-tainted standoff behind them, Senate Democrats accepted Roland Burris as President-elect Barack Obama's Senate successor on Monday and said they expect to swear in the new Illinois senator this week. "He is now the senator-designate from Illinois and, as such, will be accorded all the rights and privileges of a senatorelect," Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois said in a joint statement.

At a news conference in **Burris** Chicago, called himself honored and humbled to be the state's next junior senator. "I'm thankful for the

opportunity to serve," he said and added: "I recognize that my appointment triggered a challenging time for many." development Monday's prevented the impasse that has plagued Democrats from dragging on into Obama's inauguration festivities that begin this weekend, and it capped a grudging, gradual retreat by the Senate's top Democrats.

Initially they had tried to dissuade Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who faces a state Senate impeachment trial, from making an appointment and suggested that his pick would not be seated. Last week, Burris' credentials were rejected by Senate Democrats in a circus-like atmosphere that tarnished the opening day festivities of

the new Congress.

But Reid and Durbin said they now anticipate that Burris, a former Illinois attorney general, will be seated this week, barring objections from Republicans.

They made the announcement after Burris' lawyers delivered to the Capitol documents certifying his appointment to Obama's seat, and the secretary of the Senate determined that the paperwork met Senate requirements.

While a victory for Burris, the move is a major reversal for Senate Democrats.

They initially indicated they would refuse to seat Burris and objected to the appointment by Blagojevich, who is accused by federal investigators of seeking to trade the Senate seat for personal favors.

Senators feared that any appointee would be tainted. Even though Burris does not stand accused of wrongdoing, Senate Democrats rejected Burris last week only to quickly backpedal after Obama himself privately weighed in and senators fretted that the situation was diverting their focus at a critical time.

Indeed, much to the chagrin of Democrats who expanded their House and Senate majorities in the November elections and won the White

House, the standoff stretched into the new Congress' second week in session and has served as a distraction for Democrats trying to tackle an ambitious agenda.

It includes weighty tasks like holding confirmation hearings for Obama's new Cabinet while negotiating both the second installment of last fall's \$700 billion financial bailout package and the president-elect's mammoth new spending plan aimed at jolting the economy.

Senate Democratic angst over seating Burris softened last week as the Burris appointment took the feeling of a political sideshow.

Under pressure from Obama and rank-and-file Democrats to resolve the dispute, Reid said a "number of efforts" be undertaken, would including sending matter to the Senate Rules Committee. He also said that "without any question" the entire Senate would vote on whether or not to seat Burris after Senate lawyers reviewed necessary documents and Burris' testimony in the Illinois House that he had promised Blagojevich nothing in exchange for the

But Reid spokesman Jim Manley said Monday that Reid doesn't intend to have

the Rules Committee review Burris' appointment, and that the Senate will vote on the appointment by unanimous consent unless there is an objection that would trigger a roll call vote.

From Illinois to Washington, Republicans assailed Senate Democrats for how they handled the issue.

Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, who is leading the Senate GOP's election efforts, accused them of "arrogant mismanagement" and said: "This entire situation has been anationalembarrassmentthat could have been avoided." He pledged to make winning the Illinois Senate seat a top priority for Republicans in 2010.

Illinois Republican Party Chairman Andy McKenna added: "Democrats chose to trust a madman over the people of Illinois" by seating Burris instead of blocking Blagojevich's appointment holding a special and election.

The Illinois Supreme Court ruled last week that under state law, Burris' appointment paperwork was valid and that it was up to the Senate to decide whether to seat him. But Reid and other Democrats had contended that it violated Senate rules unless the appointment was signed by both the governor and the Illinois secretary of

After lawyers for Burris and the Senate met for under an hour in the Capitol to review the documents, Reid and Durbin issued the statement that they were satisfied both with the documents and with Burris' testimony before the impeachment panel that he did nothing wrong.





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U.S. REGIONAL B5 Tuesday, January 13, 2009

ND gets blizzard on top of December's record snow

By JAMES MacPHERSON **Associated Press Writer**

BISMARCK, N.D. - A fastmoving blizzard clogged roads and closed schools in North Dakota on Monday, causing more headaches for residents

And, forecasters said a blast of cold air was on the way that could send the thermometer as low as 30 below zero.

"Four-wheel drives are useless — people are just snowed in," still trying to dig out from a Rhonda Woodhams, the office County highway department. "People are calling in saying they're out of milk and diapers for their kids, or they have doctor appointments they need to get to."

Travel was discouraged in the

A man walks down a street near the Capital building after a heavy, early morning snow storm blew through Denver on Monday, Jan.

Associated Press

One killed, four hurt in Black **Hawk crash at Texas A&M**

COLLEGE STATION, Texas - An Army Black Hawk helicopter crashed Monday in a field on the campus of Texas A&M University, killing one person and injuring four others aboard.

The Army UH-60 helicopter crashed Monday afternoon during training exercises near the Corps of Cadets field on the school's College Station campus, about 100 miles northwest of Houston. No one on the ground and no students were hurt. A crew of four from the Army National Guard and an Army lieutenant assigned to the school's ROTC unit were the only ones aboard the Black Hawk, Texas A&M spokesman Lane Stephenson said.

Three men were in critical condition at College Station Medical Center, spokeswoman Melissa Purl said.

Another crash victim was at St. Joseph Regional Health Center in Bryan, a spokesman said. That person's condition wasn't immediately known.

Officials did not release the names of the dead and injured. Witnesses told the Bryan-College Station Eagle they saw five Black Hawk helicopters taking off and landing throughout the day.

Scott Walker said one of two helicopters he watched lift off seemed to lose control and start spinning, Walker said.

"All of a sudden he dropped straight back down into the Walker told the ground," newspaper.

The helicopter, along with 190 cadets in the university's Corps of Cadets, the school's own officer training unit, were participating in the ROTC Winter Field Training Exercises.



An emergency worker carries equipment away from a helicopter after it crashed on the campus of Texas A&M University on Monday afternoon, Jan. 12, 2009 in College Station, Texas.

Associated Press

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central and western parts of North Dakota because drifting snow, whipped up by high winds, made the visibility almost zero. While the travel advisory was lifted by midday, new advisories were posted in the southeastern part of the

The Minot area got 6 inches of snow, on top of about a foot late last week, while Bismarck picked up another 4 inches.

Bismarck, Fargo and Grand Forks all broke snow records for December, each with more than 30 inches.

Farther south in Nebraska. several people were taken to area hospitals from the scene of a 27-vehicle pileup on U.S. Highway 30 west of Fremont,

Dodge County Sheriff's deputies said. No information was available about the extent of their injuries.

The Nebraska State Patrol closed all major highways in northeast Nebraska. Strong winds were creating whiteout conditions in the area.

The National Weather Service reported between 2 and 4 inches of snow in central and western Iowa, bringing totals since the weekend to nearly a foot in some places.

"The big concern is the winds are starting to increase and that will decrease visibility because of the fresh snowfall," said Brad Fillbach of the National Weather Service in Des Moines.



RESERVATION SUGGESTED

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 WORLD NEWS

Poland: Workers find WWII mass grave of Germans



In this Jan. 7, 2009 file photo, human remains are seen after they were unearthed by construction workers in Malbork, northern Poland.

Associated Press

By MONIKA SCISLOWSKA Associated Press Writer

WARSAW, Poland (AP)
_ Construction workers in
northern Poland have unearthed
a World War II-era mass grave
containing what are believed to
be the bodies of 1,800 German

men, women and children who disappeared during the Soviet Army's march to Berlin.

Poles digging at the site of a planned luxury hotel in Malbork _ which was called Marienburg and was part of Germany during the war _ excavated a bomb

crater at the foot of the city's famous 13th century Teutonic Knights fortress, authorities said Monday.

The workers found a small group of bodies in late October and halted digging to allow prosecutors to investigate. After resuming work weeks later, the workers turned up dozens, and then hundreds, more corpses. They believe more may be found. It was not immediately clear how the bodies ended up in the crater but initial examinations by Polish and German experts have concluded that they are likely the remains of German citizens still classified as "missing" more than 60 years after the end of the war, town official Piotr Szwedowski told The Associated Press.

Millions of civilians were killed or declared missing during World War II. Many of those who disappeared in the chaos of wartime Europe are still "We found no trace of any unaccounted for. clothes, shoes, belts, glasses

"Examination of the remains and the circumstances confirm that these are the missing German inhabitants of Malbork," Szwedowski said. "I have no doubt it is them."

As the Red Army was advancing in early 1945, the inhabitants of Malbork were ordered to evacuate. Some refused, while others were prevented from doing so by the general chaos of the nearing front.

The Soviets bombarded the city with heavy artillery in their assault. After the defeated German military retreated, the remaining civilians found themselves at the mercy of Red Army troops. There are no known living witnesses of what happened, Szwedowski said.

The bodies were buried naked without any possessions, he said

"We found no trace of any clothes, shoes, belts, glasses _ not even dentures or false teeth," he said.

truba TODAY

Some 100 skulls _ primarily of adults _ have bullet holes in them, suggesting these people could have been executed, but it is still unclear how the others were killed, Szwedowski said.

"We don't know if these (civilians) are direct or indirect victims of the artillery barrage but the bullet holes suggest executions in some cases," he said

More forensic tests will be carried out before the remains are laid to rest either in Malbork or a German military cemetery in Stary Czarnow, near the northwestern city of Szczecin.

"These people died in such an inhuman way, were dumped so inhumanely, that we need to bury them in dignity and respect," Szwedowski said.

IRON FIST Continued from Page B1

Hamas fighters battled Israeli troops on the outskirts of Gaza City and launched 15 rockets at southern Israel. Fighting picked up early Tuesday, as Israeli forces, backed by artillery and naval shelling, advanced closer to Gaza City from the south, witnesses said.

Khader Mussa, 35, a resident of the area under attack, told The Associated Press by telephone that he saw two apartment buildings on fire. He said he was huddling in the basement of his building with 25 other people, including his pregnant wife and his parents. "The gates of hell have opened," he said. "God help us."

Gaza's Hamas prime minister insisted on an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and the opening of blockaded border crossings as part of any truce.

"As we are in the middle of this crisis, we tell our people we, God willing, are closer to victory. All the blood that is being shed will not go to waste," Haniyeh said on Hamas Al Aqsa television. But he said the group was also pursuing a diplomatic track to end the conflict that "will not close."

Haniyeh sat a desk in a room with a Palestinian flag and a Quran in the background. His location was unclear; Israeli airstrikes have targeted militant chiefs, and most are in hiding. The fighting began Dec. 27

and has killed more than 900 Palestinians, about half of them civilians, according to Palestinian medical officials. Thirteen Israelis, including 10 soldiers, have been killed.

As diplomats struggled for traction in truce efforts, Olmert said Israel would end military operations only if Hamas stops rocketing Israel, as it has done for years, and is unable to rearm after combat subsides.

"Anything else will be met with the Israeli people's iron fist," Olmert said.

"We will continue to strike with full strength, with full force until there is quiet and rearmament stops."

A few hours before Olmert spoke, a rocket hit a house in Ashkelon but caused no casualties. Olmert addressed regional mayors in the relative safety of the basement of a public building during his two-hour visit; he has toured other towns hit by rockets since the war began.

Later, he tempered his tough talk, saying: "I really hope that the efforts we are making with the Egyptians these days will ripen to a result that will enable us to end the fighting."

Ashkelon is 10 miles from the border with Gaza. The Israeli military says Hamas has Iranian-supplied rockets that can reach 25 miles into southern Israel.

Inside Gaza, an Israeli battalion commander identified only as Lt. Col. Yehuda said troops had not met significant resistance and had found several houses booby-trapped either with regular explosives, or by sealing the windows and doors and opening cooking gas valves.

"A couple of days ago, an armed squad popped up from a tunnel that was concealed by a nearby building. We took them out with tank fire and a bulldozer," he said.

In another incident, the commander said, his men spotted a suicide bomber on a bicycle.

"He ran off to take cover in a building, presumably to draw us in," Yehuda said. "We demolished the building on top of him with a bulldozer."

Brig. Gen. Eyal Eisenberg said troops were "tightening the encirclement" of Gaza City and were "constantly on the move." The comments by Yehuda and Eisenberg were approved by Israeli military censors. They spoke to a small group of reporters who accompanied Israeli units inside Gaza. Israeli forces have not allowed journalists to enter Gaza to cover the war.

Israeli warplanes pounded suspected Hamas positions in Gaza City, and navy gunboats fired at least 25 shells. Smoke billowed over buildings.

At least 20 Palestinians died Monday, some of them from wounds suffered on previous days, Gaza health officials said. A girl, a doctor and a Hamas



U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice speaks during a news conference at the State Department in Washington, DC. Rice was left shame-faced after President George W. Bush ordered her to abstain in a key UN vote on the Gaza war.

Associated Press

militant were killed in the northern Gaza Strip, said Basim Abu Wardeh, head of Kamal Adwan hospital.

The doctor rushed to evacuate the wounded from a building where two airstrikes had taken place and was killed by a third, Abu Wardeh said. Four other medics were injured, one critically.

The Israeli military said four soldiers were injured, one seriously, in what an initial inquiry concluded was a "friendly fire" incident in northern Gaza.

Israel has sent reserve units into Gaza to reinforce thousands of ground forces already in the territory, and fighting has persisted despite a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire. Egypt has assumed a

role as mediator between Israel and Hamas.

Talks "are progressing slowly but surely, because each party wants to score some points," Hossam Zaki, the spokesman for Egypt's Foreign Ministry, told the British Broadcasting Corp. "We would like to be able to bridge some gaps and then proceed immediately to a cease-fire."

Zaki, however, said Egypt could not provide certain guarantees that Israelis seek, such as a halt to rocket fire.

"We'll enhance our efforts, but this is not an issue between Israel and Egypt," Zaki told the BBC. "It is an issue between Israel and Gaza, and this is something that will have to be worked out, as the (U.N.) Security Council says, in Gaza."



WORLD NEWS B7 Tuesday, January 13, 2009



Russia to restart gas pumps to Europe on Tuesday



The gas pumping station at Sudzhe, Russia, seen late Sunday, Jan. 11, 2009. Ukraine signed a deal on Monday Jan. 12, 2009, to allow teams of EU monitors to be deployed at natural gas transit sites along Ukraine's vast pipeline network, and the agreement, which Russian gas company Gazprom said was signed Monday morning during talks in Kiev, could open the way for a resumption of gas shipments to Europe through pipelines that cross Ukraine.

Associated Press

By MARIA DANILOVA Associated Press Writer

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) - Russia's state gas monopoly has promised to resume shipping Europe-bound gas through Ukraine on Tuesday morning, nearly a week after it shut off the taps and forced countless Europeans to huddle cold and resentful in freezing homes.

However, a spokesman for the Gazprom monopoly indicated lingering problems could still prolong the crisis.

More than 15 countries have been the inadvertent victims of a complex and acrimonious wrangle between Russia and Ukraine over gas prices, past debts and allegations of theft. They also jockeyed over an EU-brokered deal to send pipeline monitors to ensure that restored gas shipments reach their destination.

Russia balked at the deal after Ukraine tried to add a rider declaration that offended Moscow. Ukrainian government officials clarified the deal Monday and said the declaration was not legally binding.

After that, the deputy chairman of the Gazprom monopoly, Alexander Medvedev, said gas supplies would be started at 0700 GMT Tuesday "if there are no obstacles."

That could be a significant caveat given the recent sparring between Moscow and Kiev.

"Supplies could be restored tomorrow morning, but we remain realistic. In the last 10 days, there have been quite a few hopeful moments," Czech Energy Minister Martin Riman said at a European Union news conference in Brussels.

Russia shut off all gas to Ukrainian pipelines Wednesday,

accusing Ukraine of siphoning off gas intended for downstream countries. About 20 percent of all the gas consumed in Europe comes from Russia through pipelines that cross Ukraine. Ukraine denies the siphoning charge, but Prime Minister

Yulia Tymoshenko said Ukraine will have to use some gas from Russia as so-called "technical gas" to power compressors that push Europe-bound gas through the pipelines.

That position potentially "creates a crisis situation with

the transit of Russian gas to European users," Gazprom spokesman Sergei Kupriyanov said in a statement Monday. If Ukraine "cannot guarantee the technical gas by itself from its own resources, it should obtain it and not divert it illegally."



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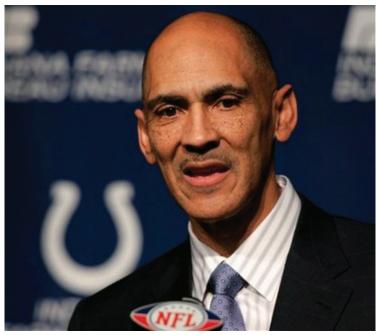


Tuesday, January 13, 2009 SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

SPURIS TODAY

Colts coach Tony Dungy retires



By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Tony Dungy has retired after seven years as coach of the Indianapolis Colts, saying this was right moment.

"These seven years have been better than I could ever have imagined," Dungy, the only black coach to win a Super Bowl, said at a news conference Monday. "I just have to thank everyone."

He will be replaced by associate coach Jim Caldwell. Dungy, 53, has spent the past five years debating whether to leave football to spend more time with his family. He said he and his wife discussed the decision

"We just felt this was the right time," Dungy said. "Don't shed any tears for me. I got to live a dream most people don't get to live."

Dungy is the Colts' franchise leader in victories. He went 85-27 in the regular season and 7-6 in the playoffs, including the victory over Chicago in the 2007 Super Bowl.

"You don't always get to go out on top," Dungy said, "and it's hard to go out on top."

The plan to have Caldwell replace Dungy as the Colts' coach was put in place last year when the coach pondered retirement. Caldwell joined Dungy's staff in Tampa Bay in 2001, then moved with Dungy to the Colts in 2002 and was the quarterbacks coach. A year ago, Caldwell was elevated to associate head coach though he continued to coach Peyton Manning and Jim Sorgi.

"He is ready, he's more than ready," Dungy said. "He's going to do a great job."

Dungy's decision comes a little more than a week after the Colts were eliminated from the playoffs. He spoke to several of his players Monday, including Manning.

"That's the tough part," Dungy said. "That's been the emotionally draining part of today."

He has spent the past five years debating whether to leave football, each year taking about a week to meet with his family, which now lives in Tampa. "I'm going to be a Colt

forever," Dungy said, adding that he plans to still spend quite a bit of time in Indianapolis. Dungy has always listed his priorities as faith, family and football, and returned to coach in 2008 when the Colts opened the new Lucas Oil Stadium only after team owner Jim Irsay agreed to let Dungy use a private jet to commute home. The decision ends a tenure in Indianapolis during which Dungy led the Colts to the playoffs all seven seasons,

winning five division titles

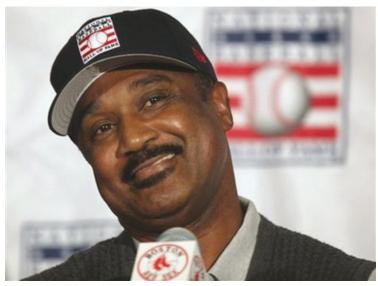
and appearing in two AFC

But, his teams were also eliminated from the playoffs four times without winning a game, including the past two seasons after winning the Super Bowl_prompting some to speculate that Dungy's indecision may have hurt the Colts' focus.

Dungy also spent six seasons in Tampa Bay, rejuvenating a moribund franchise and turning it into a perennial Super Bowl contender in the late 1990s and the early part of this decade. He left Tampa with a career record of 54-42 in the regular season becoming the winningest coach in franchise history there, too, and got the Buccaneers to the NFC title game in 1999.

Henderson, Rice elected to baseball hall

title games.



Former Boston Red Sox baseball player Jim Rice smiles while taking questions from reporters during a news conference at Boston's Fenway Park, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009. Rice made it into the Hall of Fame on Monday, on his 15th and final try.

Associated Press

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - Rickey Henderson sped his way into the baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot Monday, and Jim Rice made it in on his 15th and final try.

Henderson, baseball's career leader in runs scored and stolen bases, received 94.8 percent of the vote from the Baseball Writers' Association of America, well above the 75 percent needed.

Rice, among baseball's most feared hitters in the late 1970s and early 1980s, got 76.4 percent of the vote after falling just shy with 72.2 percent last year.

Henderson became the 44th player elected in his first year of

eligibility. Rice was only the third elected by the BBWAA in his final year, joining Red Ruffing (1967) and Ralph Kiner (1975). The pair will be inducted into the Hall during ceremonies on July 26 in Cooperstown, New York.

They will be joined by former Yankees and Indians second baseman Joe Gordon, elected posthumously last month by the Veterans Committee.

Henderson was picked on 511 of 539 ballots and Rice was selected on 412, just more than the 405 needed.

Rice received only 29.8 percent of the vote in 1995, when he appeared on the ballot for the first time. He topped 50 percent for the first time in 2000 and reached 64.8 percent in 2006 - the highest percentage for a player who wasn't elected in a later year was 63.4 by Gil Hodges in 1983, his final time on the ballot.

Andre Dawson fell 44 votes short with 67 percent. He was followed by Bert Blyleven (62.7 percent), Lee Smith (44.5), Jack Morris (44.0), Tommy John (31.7) and Tim Raines (22.6). John appeared on the ballot for the final time.

Mark McGwire, stigmatized by accusations he used performanceenhancing drugs, received 118 votes (21.9 percent) in his third year of eligibility, down from the 128 votes he got in each of his first two tries.

Henderson, the 1990 AL MVP, was a 10-time All-Star who swiped 1,406 bases, just one shy of 50 percent more than Lou Brock, who is in second place with 938. Henderson batted .279 with 297 homers, 1,115 RBIs, 2,190 walks and 2,295 runs. He owns the modern-day, single-season record with 130 steals in 1982, and the career mark with 81 leadoff homers. He played 25 seasons for Oakland, the Yankees, Toronto, San Diego, Anaheim, the Mets, Seattle, Boston and the Dodgers.

Rice, the 1978 AL MVP, was an eight-time All-Star who hit 382 home runs in 16 seasons with the Boston Red Sox from 1974-89. He had a .298 career batting average and 1,451 RBIs, and from 1977-79 averaged .320 with 41 homers and 128 RBIs.



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SPORTS B11
Tuesday, January 13, 2009



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Las Campeonas 10

Lot: 984 m2 / 10,591 sq.ft. Home: 128 m2 / 1,377 sq.ft. Two bedroom & 2 bathroom cottage house, comfortably furnished. Landscaped garden and inner patio. The home has central air-conditioning. All appliances and furniture included in the sale. Priced at US\$500,000

Las Campeonas 25

Lot: 695m2 / 7,478 sq.ft. Home: 168m2 / 1,808 sq.ft. 3/3

Most charming one story patio home with tropical garden, fully landscaped, salt-system pool and Jacuzzi with wraparound deck. The master bedroom suite and the guest

bedroom suite enjoy spectacular private views of the garden. The upgraded kitchen with granite counter top, stainless steel appliances and mahogany finished cabinets, enjoys pool and golf course view, complementing the spacious living & dining areas. Ample custom closets and storage, central air-conditioning and ceiling fans. Furniture and furnishings negotiated separately.



Priced at US\$695.000



Miramar 3

Lot: 599 m 2 / 6,448 sq.ft. Home: 161 m 2 / 1,733 sq.ft. $2 / 2 \frac{1}{2}$ Cozy one story casita, 2 master suit bedrooms, 2 ½ bathrooms, with living/dining/kitchen area wide open. Includes a one-car garage and separate laundry room. Nicely landscaped, and ready for occupancy. Priced at US\$699,000

Miramar 27

Lot: 711m2 / 7,653 sq.ft. Home: 245.45 m2 / 2,642 sq.ft. 3/4 New construction, just-finished home. Two story home, three bedrooms, spectacular terraces, four baths, panoramic views from everywhere, includes all appliances, Italian furnishings, decorations, drip system, pool with infinity edge. **Priced at US\$1,750,000**





Las Rocas 14D 149 m2 / 1,495 sq.ft 3/2

This second story Las Rocas condo has 3-bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, dining room and terrace, central air conditioning, hot water heater, stacked washer & dryer, pantry, closets and a one car garage with storage room. Enjoys great golf views and nature preserve. Priced at US\$450,000

Mesa Vista 29 130m2 / 1,400 sq.ft. 2 / 2 ½

Lot: 728 m2 / 7,836 sq.ft. Home: 274 m2 / 2,949 sq.ft. 4/3

This two story Hacienda home with expanded living area enjoys a beautiful pool and gazebo with exceptional views, raised Jacuzzi, tiled patio with a large pergola, and a built in BBQ, bar and entertainment area downstairs, with two bedrooms and one bathroom nicely laid out with ample closet space and a rustic pass through kitchen. The upstairs master suite with spacious bedroom, full bathroom and large balcony, enjoys golf and nature preserve views. Two car garage, maid's quarters with bathroom. The home is fully air-conditioned, and will be sold unfurnished. Priced at US\$ 995,000

Bella Vista 12: Lot: 2,076 m2 / 22,346 sq.ft. Home: 429.6 m2 / 4,624 sq.ft. 5 / 3 plus two ½ This two story luxurious custom-built villa has four-bedrooms, and maid's quarters, a formal dining room, great room, large fully equipped kitchen with breakfast nook, den, pool, gazebo, various patio areas and a two car garage, on the ground floor. The upstairs enjoys lounge areas with ocean views and balconies. All furniture, linen, equipment and tools are included. Just bring your tooth brush. Priced at US\$2.300,000

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week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-1B RoyalClubGrandLe.-US\$32,000 week#2-17-OccidentaGrandl-1B

Delux, Ocean View- US\$14,000

week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-JR. Suite - OceanView - US\$16,000 week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-JR.

Suite, Oceanview - US\$16,000 week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-EX Studio, PoolView - US\$9,000

week#2,3,4,5,6-LaCabana-1Bdx R#401d,OceanFr.-US\$18,000pw

week# 52 - La Cabana - 1Bdr R#442a-Ocean/pool-US\$17,000 week#52(2x)-La Cabana -2Bdr R#128b/c-Ocean/po-US\$25,000

week# 52-La Cabana- 1Bdr R#137a,OceanView- US\$9,000

week# 3,4,5,6LaCabana.-2Bdr. R#346e-OceanF.-US\$30,000pw

week# 52,Aruban Resort - 1Bdr. R#4522 - Poolv - US\$9,500

week# 51,52,Aruban Resort-1Bd R#4586, Poolv - US\$9,500 pw week# 1&2, Aruban Resort-1Bd

R#4585,Poolv - US\$8,000 pw week# 2, Aruban Resort-1Bdr. R#4584, Poolview - US\$8,000

week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#1586,poolview- U\$\$8,000pw

week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#3586, poolv- US\$7,000pw

week# 4 Aruban Resort- 2Bdr. R#5510,poolview- US\$14,000

week#52(2x).ArubanRes-2Bdr R#4524/20,poolv- US\$9,500pw

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanSide -US\$33,000

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanView US\$30,000

PlatiPI.W#51&52.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$140,000

PlatiPI.W#51&52.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanView-US\$125,000

week#2,3,4,5,6,OccidentalGr-3Bdr 3Baths,OceanFront-US\$70,000pw

PlatinumPl. W#51 Marriott Surf. 2Bdr, Oceanview-US\$45,000

PlatinumPl. W#52- Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$60,000

PlatinumPL.W#52- Marriott Surf. 1Bdr,Oceanview- US\$55,000

FloatingW#18-50 Marriott Ocear 2Bdr, Oceanview -US\$ 20,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 1Bdr, OceanView-US\$18,000

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PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,OceanView-US\$26,000 PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean

2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$60,000 week# 1 -CostaLinda - 2Bdr.

R#2031,Ocean/pool-US\$25,000 week#1 CostaLinda - 2Bdr R#1014,OceanView-US\$24,000

week# 4,5,6 -Costa Linda-2Bdr. R#1016,Oceanview-US\$24,000

week# 4, Costa Linda - 2Bdr. R#2012,Oceanview.-US\$24,000 week# 6, Costa Linda - 2 Bdr.

R#1010,Oceanview-US\$24,000 week# 5 - Costa Linda - 2 Bdr.

R#3004,Ocean/Pool-US\$26,000

week#1&2,Renaissance -1Br R#2508,GardenV-US\$10,000pw week# 4 & 5 DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr

R#108,OceanFR-US\$12,000pw

week# 2,Aruban Resort-1 Bdr. R#4584 ,PoolView-US\$.8,475 week# 1,Paradise B.V - 1 Bdr.

week# 2, ParadiseBV - 2Bdr. R# 207,Ocean/Pool-US\$15,000 week# 3&4, ParadiseB.V - 1Bdr.

R#227, Oceanfront-US\$15,000

R#101,Ocean/p-US\$12,000pw week# 4, ParadiseB.V - 2Bdr. R#129,Oceanfront - US\$24,000

week# 52 ,DiviPhoenix -Studio. R#110,OceanFront - US\$11,000

week# 1, DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr. R#206,OceanFront-US\$20,000 week# 1 - DiviPhoenix - Studio R#204, Oceanfront - US\$9,000

week#2bianual-DiviPhoenixStudio. R#404,Oceanfront- US\$6,000

week# 3-DiviPhoenix -1Bdr R#601,Oceanview- US\$12,000

week#3-4, DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#416,Oceanfrnt-US\$25,000pw week# 4 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr

R#901- Oceanview-US\$11,000 week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr. R#1001,Oceanv- US\$10,000

week#5-DiviPhoenix-2Bdr/2bath. R#206,Oceanfront US\$23,000

week#6-7-DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#302,Oceanfro.-US\$25,000pw week# 3 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr

R#209-OceanFront- US\$10,000 week#52 - DiviLinks - 1-Bdr R#2206-Poolview-US\$18,000

weeks#50,51,52,-DiviLinks-1Bdr R#4226-,Ocean/p-US\$16,000pw

week#1-2,-3 -DiviLinks - 1Bdr R#4226,Ocean/P-US\$16,000pw

week# 4 - DiviLinks - Studio. R#2108,Poolv - US\$14,000

week# 4-DiviLinks -1 Bdr. R#2105,Poolview-US\$16,000

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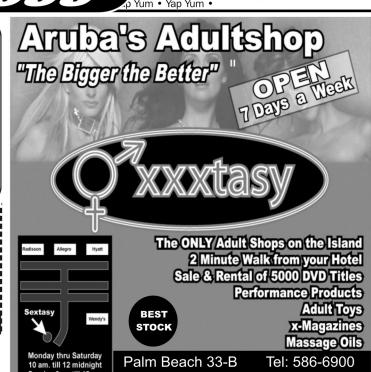


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Presidente Uribe propone delegado del Vaticano para facilitar liberación de rehenes de las FARC

BOGOTA (Reuters) - El presidente de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe, propuso el lunes que el Papa Benedicto XVI nombre, a través de El Vaticano, a un delegado que sea garante en la liberación de seis rehenes anunciada por las FARC, en un intento por agilizar la entrega de los secuestrados.

Las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) anunciaron el 21 de diciembre la liberación del ex gobernador del Meta Alan Jara, del ex diputado del departamento del Valle Sigifredo López y de tres un soldado policías y secuestrados.

La entrega de los rehenes ha dilatado mientras la guerrilla demanda que participe en el proceso de liberación un representante la. comunidad internacional junto con el Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja (CICR).

Uribe anunció que no permitirá que en la entrega de los secuestrados participen gobiernos extranjeros, para evitar poner en riesgo las relaciones internacionales del país, aunque se comprometió a ofrecer todas las garantías al CICR.

todo momento el "En Gobierno ha autorizado v le ha dado la bienvenida a las gestiones de paz, de liberación de secuestrados, realice la Iglesia Católica", dijo antes de viajar a Estados Unidos, donde el



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Foto de archivo del presidente colombiano, Alvaro Uribe, durante un evento militar en Bogotá, 19 nov 2008. Uribe, propuso el lunes que el Papa Benedicto XVI nombre, a través de El Vaticano, a un delegado que sea garante en la liberación de seis rehenes anunciada por las FARC, en un intento por agilizar la entrega de los secuestrados. REUTERS/John Vizcaino (COLOMBIA)

saliente presidente George W. Bush lo condecorará con la Medalla de la Libertad.

"Si la Iglesia Católica, a nivel nacionalo incluso el Vaticano, la Secretaria de Estado del Vaticano, o la persona o institución que designe su Santidad puede ayudar para que se de la liberación de los secuestrados, el Gobierno lo autoriza y le dará la bienvenida", agregó.

En el pasado, la Iglesia Católica de Colombia tuvo un papel activo en la mediación entre el Gobierno y las FARC para el tema de los rehenes y para un eventual proceso de

Pero los jerarcas católicos han permanecido en los últimos meses aislados de la guerrilla, que los marginó y expresó desconfianza de su mediación.

El padre Darío Echeverri, integrante de la Comisión de Conciliación Nacional, dijo que El Vaticano es una respetable y reconocida internacionalmente.

"Si el Presidente de la República y los señores de las FARC coinciden en que sea El Vaticano esa instancia garante, capaz de dar garantías plenas, que bueno que no solamente sea para la liberación de los secuestrados sino para poder empezar a hablar de paz", aseguró el religioso.

La Iglesia Católica de Colombia declaró

absolutamente sorprendida por la propuesta del mandatario, aunque dijo que está dispuesta a colaborar. "En los últimos días no ha habido ningún diálogo en ese sentido", dijo a periodistas el presidente de la Conferencia Episcopal de Colombia, Monseñor Rubén Salazar.

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Los familiares de los rehenes destacaron la propuesta del presidente y dijeron que puede contribuir a agilizar la liberación de sus seres queridos.





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